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STAR OF MYSORE

OUR EVENING DAILY

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MYSURU Saturday 26th September 2020
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Mounted Police train horses for 'Jumboo Savari'

Will Mayor, City Police Chief, ZP President go on horseback this year?

The Mounted Police battalion during a training session at the Horse Park this morning.

Mysuru, Sept. 26 (RK&KS)- Though the State Government has decided to celebrate Dasara from Oct. 17 - 26 in a simple manner this year by limiting the 'Jumboo Savari' only to the Mysore Palace premises, owing to Corona pandemic, the personnel of the Mounted Police force have begun their training for the Dasara procession.

Thirty-five horses from the Mounted Police battalion, with its headquarters on Lalitha Mahal Road, will be participating in the 'Jumboo Savari' to be held on *Vijayadashami* Day.

Mounted Police Commandant Nagaraju, speaking to *Star of Mysore*, said that like every year, this year too 35 horses from the Mounted Police force will take part in the procession to be held at Palace premises.

He said that every morning, the horses are led to Chamundi Hill, Nandi Statue and surrounding places, where the staff train them and added that as Dasara was nearing, training would be provided to these 35 horses in the mornings and evenings at the Horse Park (foot of Chamundi Hill) and in Palace premises.

Nutritional diet: These 35 horses have been put on nutritional diet by providing them with rich protein food, besides conducting exercises to them and regular health check-ups, Nagaraju said and added that the horses were closely monitored for their health. Following outbreak of COVID pandemic, the entire Mounted Police building premises is being sanitised daily and the staff are compulsorily wearing face masks and maintaining social distancing, the Commandant said.

Mayor to go on horseback?

The Mayor, Mysuru's First Citizen, leading 'Jumboo Savari' on horseback is a more than 30-year-old tradition. The Mayor is expected to lead a procession of Dasara elephants with the Howdah elephant carrying the 750-kg Golden Howdah.

(See POLICE on page 7)

Four chain-snatchers, two-wheeler lifters nabbed

Six gold chains, vehicles worth Rs. 14.10 lakh recovered

Mysuru, Sept. 26 (RK&KS)- Krishnaraja (KR) Police have arrested four persons involved in chain-snatchings and lifting two-wheelers and have recovered seven two-wheelers and six gold chains from them.

Arrested are 28-year-old Mohammed Faraz, a native of Hunsur and a residing of Mandi Mohalla, Mysuru, 24-year-old Arbaz Khan of K.G. Halli in Bengaluru, 19-year-old Zabreen Khan of Saddam Nagar in Bengaluru and 21-year-old Imran Khan of Shabeer Nagar in Hunsur.

On Sept. 21 at about 2 pm, when KR Police were on their regular beat at Chamundi Hill, saw four youths standing in a suspicious manner along with a Hero Honda Splendor bike and a Honda Dio scooter on Uttanahalli Road at about 3 pm. When the youths saw the Police vehicle approaching them, they tried to escape, but were caught by the Police personnel.

During interrogation, the Police came to know that they were involved in four chain-snatching incidents in KR Police limits and one chain-snatching incident each in Vidyaranyapuram and Kuvempunagar Police limits in city. Also, Police came to know that the youths had lifted four two-wheelers in KR Police limits and one bike each in Upparpet, Peenya and Mahalakshmi Layout Police limits in Bengaluru.

(See NABBED on page 7)

STAR PUNCH

By Satish Acharya

City Police stop suspected fake University from conferring fake doctorates

Three taken into custody; certificates, mementoes seized

Mysuru, Sept. 26 (RK&KS)- Mysuru City Police, led by DCP Dr. A.N. Prakash Gowda, raided a private hotel on Hunsur Road, where a suspected fake University had organised a ceremony to confer Hon. Doctorates.

Police have taken three persons into custody besides seizing Ph.D certificates and mementoes. Ironically, Harihara MLA Ramappa was the chief guest.

Acting on a tip off that a fake University in the name 'International Global Peace University' was conferring Hon. Doctorates in city this morning, DCP Dr. Prakash Gowda and staff raided the hotel during which a few organisers fled from the spot. The Varsity, it is learnt, after collecting money from over 150 gullible candidates, had organised a function to confer Ph.D degrees.

(See UNIVERSITY on page 7)

Mysuru COVID-19 UPDATE

Figures as per Government Media Bulletin released last evening

Positive cases yesterday	:	702
Total positive cases	:	32,275
Discharges yesterday	:	10
Total discharges	:	26,061
Deaths yesterday	:	-
Total deaths	:	715
Total active cases	:	5,499

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STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Saturday 26th September 2020

MP Pratap Simha raises coffee planters' issue in Parliament

New Delhi, Sept.26- Mysuru-Kodagu MP Pratap Simha raised the issue of the multiple problems faced by coffee planters in Karnataka in the Lok Sabha on Thursday.

Pratap Simha

Explaining the plight of coffee growers threadbare in Parliament, Pratap Simha urged the Government to waive off interest on coffee planter loans.

Pointing out that Karnataka accounts for 70 percent of coffee production in the country, Simha said that 98 percent of the planters were small and medium growers. He noted that while coffee and pepper growers of Kodagu faced a lot of difficulties due to rain shortfall in 2016-17, the situation turned much worse for them for three successive years from 2018, when rains caused unprecedented havoc across the district. Arguing that floods and landslides triggered by heavy rains have brought untold misery for coffee and pepper growers of Kodagu district, he said large swathes of crops were devastated by unprecedented rains this year too.

Contending that the relief provided to coffee growers as per NDRF guidelines was much less as compared to actual losses, he called for the intervention of Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, who represents Karnataka and Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal for saving the coffee and pepper growers from deep distress.

Maintaining that about 3,000 acres of coffee plantation in Kodagu has been totally destroyed due to natural calamities, he urged the Centre to come to the aid of distressed growers by waiving off all interest on coffee grower loans.

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

Controversy dogs the farm bills just passed by Parliament. The bills aim to revolutionise the farm sector. The new legislations are farmer-friendly and free agriculturists from selling produce through the State-run Agriculture Produce Marketing Committee (APMC) platforms. Earlier, the purchase/sale of coffee through the Coffee Board, Ministry of Commerce, was deregulated in the mid-1990s and selling coffee in the open market has been a success story. Similarly, after these legislations, farmers will no longer be subjected to the stranglehold of merchants who dominate the APMCs. Like a citizen can choose to avail of services of a private or a government hospital, the farmer should also be free to sell outside the APMC.

The fact that the new legislation legalises contract farming is advantageous to the farmer because his output is procured at guaranteed prices. Moreover, crop procurement is done at the farmgate, which saves the farmers' energies and expenditure on logistics to reach the market. This benefits even small growers. The fear that corporations could fix lower prices for contracted crops is unfounded as the farmer has the option to grow other crops of his choice which would fetch higher prices. The reality of the political economy is that market forces tend to work around the regulatory framework to earn profits. The government therefore needs to re-work its regulatory framework from time to time and the recent legislation is a step in that direction in the farm sector. — *B.A. Channappa Gowda and Pradeep Poovayya in Deccan Herald*

NEWS SPARKLERS

Exquisite sugar flowers of Luciana Gonzalez

Rio: Brazilian confectionery master Luciana Gonzalez, specialises in creating ultra-realistic sugar flowers. Her works is so incredibly detailed and delicate that you would never guess she has only three years of experience.

Until 2017, Luciana Gonzalez had never baked a cake in her life nor enjoyed spending time in the kitchen. But three years ago, she decided to abandon her lucrative career in civil construction due to unbearable stress and try supporting her family in another way. After her former profession put her in the hospital, she decided to go to school again and learn another profession. The Senac Campos do Jordão School of Gastronomy was right in front of her house, so she decided to give it a try, despite her total lack of cooking experience.

Girl cries blood and doctors have no idea why

Sao Paolo: A 15-year-old girl has baffled doctors after allegedly crying blood from her eyes for over a week, for reasons that even doctors cannot understand.

The girl, identified only Doris, started feeling sick on Sept. 12 and her mother took her to a hospital in her home city of Sao Paolo. She complained of pain in her abdomen and doctors diagnosed her with kidney stones. She was given medication for the pain and was sent home shortly after.

However, on Sunday morning she was again rushed to the emergency room with blood coming out of one eye. Doctors examined Doris, but couldn't determine the cause of the blood tears, and since she reported no pain or discomfort, she was once again sent home.

HEALTH CAPSULE by Bron Smith

How much has sugar consumption increased?

During the American revolution, Americans consumed 4 LBS of sugar per year. By 1850, 20 LBS; 1994:120LBS. Today we're approaching 160LBS per year. HMMM... I wonder why diabetes has reached epidemic proportions?

** Health Capsules is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature.*

COVID-19 UPDATE

Mandya

Figures as per Government Media Bulletin released last evening

Positive cases yesterday	:	111
Total positive cases	:	9,802
Total discharges	:	8,288
Total deaths	:	98
Total active cases	:	1,416

Chamarajanagar

Positive cases yesterday	:	51
Total positive cases	:	3,709
Total discharges	:	2,909
Total deaths	:	70
Total active cases	:	719

Kodagu

Positive cases yesterday	:	67
Total positive cases	:	2,435
Total discharges	:	2,003
Total deaths	:	33
Total active cases	:	399

Hassan

Positive cases yesterday	:	227
Total positive cases	:	14,977
Total discharges	:	12,089
Total deaths	:	266
Total active cases	:	2,622

Really...?

- ***If you peel your fruits and vegetables before you eat them, you may be making a nutritional mistake. On many fruits and veggies such as carrots, apples and cucumbers, a good percentage of the nutrition is actually stored in the skin.***

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

Maths Teacher: *What is a line?* ***Tom:*** *A line is a dot that's going for a walk.*

Teacher: *Then what are parallel lines?*

Tom: *A dot going for a walk with his girlfriend !*

Today's Currency Rate

1 US Dollar	= Rs. 73.70
1 UK Pound	= Rs. 93.93
1 UAE Dirham	= Rs. 20.06
1 Euro	= Rs. 85.73

VOICE OF THE READER

Is it necessary to conduct Dasara amid COVID?

Sir,

When the whole world is facing Coronavirus pandemic, it is surprising that the Government of Karnataka is holding preliminary meetings to conduct Dasara Festival. Till recently there was lockdown in the whole of India but now there is some relaxation of curbs mainly to revive the growth rate in the economy.

There is a steep rise in the Corona cases in India. Bengaluru and Mysuru are the worst affected cities with 10 to 12 people dying daily due to this virus in Mysuru. If *Jumboo Savari* procession takes place there will be an assembly of big crowd coming mostly from villages without wearing masks and not observing social distance, thus causing danger to their own health as well as the health of others.

When schools and colleges were closed, temples were not opened, jathras were prohibited, cinema halls are closed, Olympic events are postponed, the great American Tennis tournament is conducted without spectators, trains and bus services were stopped, why this Dasara Festival is required?

In the interest of public and the safety of elephants it is wise on the part of the Government to cancel this Dasara Festival.

— A.C. Ramakrishna
Yadavagiri
10.9.2020

SPB's connection with Ganapathy Ashram

The legendary singer S.P. Balasubrahmanyam (SPB) was fond of birds and made it a point to visit Shuka Vana (Parrot Park) at Sri Ganapathy Sachchidananda Ashram on Ooty Road in Datta Nagar whenever he was in Mysuru. The veteran playback singer had also lent his voice for Bhajans' cassette of Avadhoota Datta Peetham Founder-Pontiff Sri Ganapathy Sachchidananda Swamiji's composition. A two-day shoot of 'Ede Thumbi Haaduvenu' was also done at Nadamantapa in the Ashram premises in August 2014. Also, the late singer had given many musical programmes in the Ashram. *[See also page-9 for a tribute to SPB]*

National Medical Commission replaces Medical Council of India

New Delhi, Sept. 26 (Agencies)- The National Medical Commission (NMC), in place of the Medical Council of India (MCI), for development and regulation of all aspects of Medical Education and Profession, has been constituted and came into existence from yesterday, a gazette notification said. With NMC coming into being, the Board of Governors (BoG), which superseded the MCI on Sept. 26, 2018, to perform its functions, will get dissolved and the nearly 64-year-old Indian Medical Council Act will stand abolished.

The former head of Delhi All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) ENT Department, Dr. Suresh Chandra Sharma has been appointed Chairman for a period of three years with effect from Sept. 25 while Rakesh Kumar Vats, the Secretary-General in the Board of Governors of the MCI, presently, would be the Secretary of the Commission.

The four autonomous boards under the NMC Act — the Under-Graduate Medical Education Board (UGMEB), Post-Graduate Medical Education Board (PGMEB), Medical Assessment and Rating Board and the Ethics and Medical Registration Board — have also been constituted, according to the notifications issued by Nipun Vinayak, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Health on Thursday.

"In pursuance of the provisions of sub-section (1) of section 60 of the National Medical Commission Act, 2019, the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956 is hereby repealed with effect from the 25th day of September 2020. The Board of Governors appointed under section 3A of the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956 in supersession of the Medical Council of India constituted under sub-section (1) of section 3 of the said Act shall stand dissolved," one of the notifications read. The NMC comprises a Chairman, 10 ex-officio members and 22 part-time members. The ex-officio members include Presidents of the four autonomous Boards.

"In pursuance of the provisions...of the National Medical Commission Act, 2019, the Central Government hereby constitutes the National Medical Commission," another notification read. "Now, therefore, in the exercise of the powers... the Central Government hereby notifies that all the remaining provisions of the National Medical Commission Act, 2019, shall come into force with effect from the 25th day of September 2020," another one read.

Dr. Sharma, was on Jan.2, appointed the Chairman of the NMC, the new medical education regulator after the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet approved his appointment.

"Under sub-section (2) of section 4, the Chairperson of the National Medical Commission (Dr. Suresh Chandra Sharma) is appointed for a period of three years with effect from the 25th day of September," according to a notification. Also, Rakesh Kumar Vats, the Secretary-General in the Board of Governors of the MCI was appointed as the Secretary of the Commission for a similar term on Jan. 2.

The NMC Act, which seeks to usher in mega reforms in the Medical Education sector, received the assent of the President on Aug. 8 and was published the same day.

The Act provided for setting up of an NMC in place of the scam-tainted MCI.

Businesses to display 'best before date' of loose sweets from Oct. 1: FSSAI

New Delhi, Sept. 26 (Agencies)- Food regulator FSSAI (Food Safety and Standards Authority of India) has made it mandatory for food business operators to display 'best before date' of non-packaged sweets with effect from Oct. 1 as part of its efforts to ensure safety.

In a letter to the Commissioner of Food Safety of all States and Union Territories, FSSAI said "...in the public interest and to ensure food safety, it has been decided that in case of non-packaged/ loose sweets, the container/ tray holding sweets at the outlet for sale should display the 'Best Before Date' of the product mandatorily with effect from Oct. 1, 2020."

The Food Business Operators (FBOs) might also display the date of manufacturing voluntarily, it added.

"The FBOs shall decide and display the 'Best Before Date' of sweets depending on the nature of the products and the local conditions," the FSSAI said in the letter dated Sept. 25.

An indicative list of shelf life of various types of sweets is available on the FSSAI website.

All FBOs dealing in sweets must comply with these directions, the FSSAI said, adding that Food Safety Commissioners should ensure compliance.

EVENTS TODAY (SEPT. 26)

- **JSS Mysore Urban Haat:** Handicrafts Mela, JSS Mysore Urban Haat premises, Outer Ring Road junction, Hebbal, **up to 9 pm.**
- **Rajasthan Grameen Mela:** Expo-cum-sale of dress materials, sarees, handicrafts, etc., Jayamma Govindegowda Kalyana Mantapa, Kuvempunagar, **up to 9.30 pm.**
- **Forest Department and Asian Elephant Support (AES):** 'Mysuru Dasara Aanegalu' - Series of webinar through Zoom Meeting [Meeting ID: 993 8807 7334; Passcode: 581092], **5.30 pm.**
- **Swami Vivekananda Youth Movement (SVYM):** Guru Manthan - Discussions on Education, Discussion on 'Early Childhood Care and Education – Today and Tomorrow,' in conversation with Uma Mahadevan, Principal Secretary, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, Government of Karnataka and former Principal Secretary, Department of Women and Child Development, [Zoom: Meeting ID - 87413902094; Password - v-lead], **7 pm to 8 pm.**

EVENTS TOMORROW (SEPT. 27)

- **JSS Mysore Urban Haat:** Handicrafts Mela, JSS Mysore Urban Haat premises, Outer Ring Road junction, Hebbal, **10 am to 9 pm.**
- **Rajasthan Grameen Mela:** Expo-cum-sale of dress materials, sarees, handicrafts, etc., Jayamma Govindegowda Kalyana Mantapa, Kuvempunagar, **10 am to 9.30 pm.**
- **Forest Department and Asian Elephant Support (AES):** 'Mysuru Dasara Aanegalu' - Series of webinar through Zoom Meeting [Meeting ID: 993 8807 7334; Passcode: 581092], **5.30 pm.**

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NEWS BRIEFS

M. Tech in Tool Engineering

Government Tool Room and Training Centre (GTTC), Mysuru, has invited applications for admission to two-year M. Tech in Tool Engineering (VTU affiliated). Engineering graduates including Associate Member of Institution of Engineers (AMIE) and BE in Mechanical, Industrial Production, Automobile, Marine, Automation and Robotics are eligible to apply for the course with subjects such as press tools, plastic mould, pressure die casting, jigs and fixture, solid works, UG, Pro-E, Catia, design software and others. [Ph: 0821-2582750 Mob: 80503-25552]

Financial aid

Kendriya Sainik Board has invited online applications from Ex-Servicemen (ESM), up to the ranks of Havaldar or equivalent (having served and retired from Indian Army before March 31, 2019), to provide financial assistance for education of their children, for the year 2019-20. For children studying in 1st standard to 9th and 11th standard, Sept. 30 is the last date to apply. For those studying in 10th and 12th, Oct. 30 and for those doing graduate courses, Nov. 30 is the last date to apply. [Ph: 0821-2425240].

Book Award

Karnataka Janapada Academy has invited entries from writers for presenting Janapada Book Award for the year 2018. First edition of the books published between Jan.1, 2019 and Dec.31, 2019, with minimum of 150 pages, on topics such as Janapada prose, Janapada poetry, criticism and research work on Janapada literature and compilation of Janapada works will be considered. Authors, Publishers and Editors should send their entries to the Registrar, Karnataka Janapada Academy, 2nd Floor, Kannada Bhavan, JC Road, Bengaluru, before Oct. 25.

KRS Water Level

(Maximum : 124.80 feet)

Today	123.95 ft
Yesterday	123.55 ft
Inflow	12,386 cusecs
Outflow	5,855 cusecs

Kabini Level

(Maximum : 2,284.00 feet)

Today	2,284.00 ft
Inflow	4,399 cusecs
Outflow	3,219 cusecs

Harangi Level

(Maximum : 2,859.00 feet)

Today	2,858.86 ft
Inflow	1,380 cusecs
Outflow	800 cusecs

Want to apply for MUDA site, house?

Link your Aadhaar with PAN number

Mysuru, Sept. 26 (RK&RKB)- Planning to apply for a site in Mysuru with Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA)? Then you must link your Aadhaar Card with PAN Card number. This is being done to prevent people from owning multiple sites or houses.

Speaking at a media interaction organised by Mysuru District Journalists Association (MDJA) at Pathrakarthara Bhavan on Tyagaraja Road here on Thursday, MUDA Chairman H.V. Rajeev said that several services such as Property Tax,Transfer of Property and Plan Approval will shortly go online.

"Soon after assuming charge, I observed that around 40 to 50 per cent of beneficiaries already have sites and houses. As a result, the deserving site-less people are denied of owning a piece of land or a shelter above their head. Then I consulted officials concerned and decided to make the linking of Aadhaar and PAN number compulsory at the time of submitting application," the MUDA Chairman observed.

He said at the time of applying, the beneficiaries give in writing that they do not own any site or house not only in Mysuru but anywhere in the State. If whatever information given is proved false, then the Authority can take back the sites or houses allotted to them, he said.

MUDA Chairman H.V. Rajeev flanked by MDJA President C.K. Mahendra and General Secretary K.J. Lokesh Babu at the interaction meet.

Rajeev said linking of Aadhaar with PAN Card number will help the Authority to find out whether the applicant owns a site or house elsewhere. Such applications could be rejected outright. Change of name or address could also be detected. Then the letter of correspondence between the Authority and the applicants will be easy. Following these procedures will ensure the allotment of sites or houses to the genuine people, he added.

Pointing out that he has discussed plans for introducing online services with MUDA Commissioner and other officials, Rajeev said that he has given instructions for developing the necessary software for the purpose. The online services will be first introduced on a trial basis and subsequently will be implemented on a full scale, which measure will largely help in ending the menace of middlemen, he noted.

Continuing, he said that plan approvals will be given in a short time if the applicants strictly follow the setback and other laid out norms and submit all the required documents. Henceforth, people will not have to visit MUDA Office multiple times for getting plan approval and also can do away with middlemen, he said.

Maintaining that he has held meetings with all sections of MUDA after taking over as Chairman, Rajeev said measures will be taken for speedy disposal of files pertaining to issues such as Khata Registration, Tax stipulation and Title Deed.

Admitting that there has been a delay in the allotment of sites to people, Rajeev said that this is due to the hurdles in land acquisition process.

Stating that there are thousands of applicants who have been waiting for sites for over three decades, he assured that he will take steps to end their long wait.

Clarifying that as of now, no layout is at the development stage, the MUDA Chairman however said that the formation of a new layout has begun just now with the issuance of notification for land acquisition. As there is delay in layout formation, MUDA is going ahead with its joint venture plans with farmers, he pointed out. Continuing, he said that MUDA is working at formation of Satellite Townships wherever opportunities are available and first round of talks with land owners and farmers have already been held in this regard. At the same time, it has been planned to develop layouts on 50:50 ratio with farmers who part with their land, he added.

Referring to encroachment of MUDA lands, Rajeev said that the encroachment clearance drive is underway and the process is a continuous one.

Replying to a question on transfer of MUDA developed layouts to MCC, he said that the District Minister will be holding a meeting with MUDA and MCC authorities in this regard, following which the process will gain momentum. Reacting to MDJA's plea for allotment of a CA (Civic Amenities) site, Rajeev assured that the plea will be taken up at MUDA's next Council meeting during which a resolution will be passed in this regard.

Bihar will elect next Assembly amid pandemic in three phases

Polling on Oct. 28, Nov. 3, 7; Counting on Nov. 10

New Delhi, Sept. 26 (UNI)- Elections to the 243-member Bihar Legislative Assembly would be held in three phases on Oct. 28, Nov. 3 and 7 with votes counted on Nov. 10, the Election Commission of India (ECI) announced here yesterday.

This will be the largest election in the world since the COVID-19 pandemic as over 7.6 crore voters are eligible to exercise their franchise across nearly 42,000 polling stations.

Addressing a press conference at the ECI headquarters here, Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Sunil Arora said during the initial phase of the virus spread, over 60 countries postponed their elections but now several countries, including the United States, have taken up the challenge. "The pandemic has forced a new normal in all aspects of life," Arora said.

The ECI has reduced number of phases from five of 2015 to three in view of the pandemic.

As per the schedule, in the first phase of voting, 71 Assembly constituencies in 16 districts will go to polls; in the second phase, 94 constituencies in 17 districts; and in the third and last phase, 78 constituencies in 15 districts.

For the first phase, the notification will be issued on Oct. 1 while the last date of nomination is Oct. 8. Scrutiny of nomination will take place on Oct. 9 and the last date of withdrawal of candidature is Oct. 12.

According to the ECI, for next phase, date of issue of notification is Oct. 9 while last date of nomination is Oct. 16. Scrutiny of nomination is on Oct. 17 and the last date of withdrawal of candidature is Oct. 19.

For the last phase, the date of notification is Oct. 13 while the last date of nomination is Oct. 20. Scrutiny of nomination is on Oct. 21 and the last date of withdrawal of candidature Oct. 23.

With the announcement of schedule, the Model Code of Conduct has come into force.

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, special arrangements have been made for campaigning as well as casting of votes.

"To de-congest the polling stations and allow more movement of voters, polling time has been increased by one hour. It will be held from 7 am-6 pm, instead of 7 am-5 pm earlier," Arora said.

However, the increased voting time will not be applicable to Left-wing affected areas, he stated.

The COVID-19 patients, who are under quarantine, will be able to cast their vote at the last hour of the day at their respective polling stations, Arora said.

For campaigning, special norms have been drawn up. "Social distancing norms will have to be followed at public gatherings during the election campaign," the CEC stated.

The door-to-door campaign has been restricted to five including the candidate and number of people accompanying a candidate for submission of nomination restricted to two, Arora said.

For safety, more than seven lakh units of hand sanitisers, about 46 lakh masks, six lakh PPE kits, 7.6 lakh face kits, and 23 lakh hand gloves have been arranged while a Nodal Health Officer will also be appointed.

There are about 18.87 lakh migrants across 38 districts of Bihar, out of which 16.6 lakh were eligible to vote and 13.93 lakh had their names already on rolls. Over 2.3 lakh more migrants have registered and the process was still on, the CEC said.

The term of Bihar Assembly is due to expire on Nov. 29, 2020. As many as 38 seats are reserved for SCs and two for STs.

Delegation appeals for one-year waiver of Trade Licence fee

Former FKCCI President Sudhakar S. Shetty and team met MCC Commissioner Gurudatta Hegde at the MCC office in city yesterday to appeal him to waive off Trade Licence fee for a year.

Mysuru, Sept. 26- A delegation of Mysore Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI) and other Trade Bodies, led by former Federation of Karnataka Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FKCCI) President Sudhakar S. Shetty met Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) Commissioner Gurudatta Hegde at the MCC office yesterday and appealed him to waive off Trade Licence fee for one year, in the wake of COVID-19 crisis.

Maintaining that post-lockdown relaxation, Trade and Commerce in the city has recorded only 30 percent of what it was in the pre-lockdown days, Sudhakar Shetty said that industries and businesses are finding it extremely difficult even to meet their daily expenditures. In such a situation, the MCC should come to their rescue by waiving off Trade Licence fee for a year.

Noting that Small and Medium Scale Industries are worst affected by COVID-19 crisis, he said that business levels has reached a new low due to the crisis and it has become difficult for Traders, Industrialists and the like to survive.

Claiming that Medical Stores in other districts do not require a separate Trade License from Local Bodies, Shetty urged the MCC to do away with Trade License for Medical Shops in the city too.

Continuing, he said that the State Chief Secretary has issued a circular to all district authorities asking them to issue Trade License that is valid for five years.

But the MCC has made Trade License renewal mandatory every year, which is not correct, he said and appealed the MCC to consider a five-year renewal just as is being done in Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP).

Tourism Day tomorrow

Mysuru, Sept. 26- Even as COVID-19 pandemic continues to rage across the country, the Mysore Travels Association has decided to celebrate World Tourism Day tomorrow (Sept.27) in a simple, but purposeful manner.

World Tourism Day Celebration Committee President S. Abhinandan said that Mysore Travels Association will be celebrating the Day like in the previous years, but in a simple manner this year because of the spread of the deadly COVID-19 pandemic.

Tomorrow, all the tourists visiting the City Palace will be welcomed by giving them bouquets and sweets amidst the playing of Nadaswara, he said.

Later, the tourists will be taken in a tourist vehicle from the Southern Gate of the Palace to Kote Anjaneyaswamy Temple at the Palace North Gate, Abhinandan pointed out and added that the Government has been appealed to illuminate the Palace on Sunday (Sept. 27) evening to mark the occasion.

Man sentenced to life for murdering wife

Mysuru, Sept. 26 (YDS&KS)- City's Fifth Additional District and Sessions Court has awarded life imprisonment to a man for killing his wife besides imposing a fine of Rs. 10,000 on him.

The convict is Shivanna, a resident of Suttur in Nanjangud taluk, while the deceased (victim) is Devi.

Devi, daughter of Ankanayak of Udbur, was given in marriage to Shivanna four years ago and was given Rs. 50,000 cash as dowry at the time of marriage. Shivanna, who looked after Devi very well for about two years, later began to pester and harass her mentally to bring more dowry from her parents.

The village elders held a meeting and tried to solve the issue many times but in vain. Meanwhile, on Apr. 22, 2016, the body of Devi was found near Biligere Somanahalli village and Devi's parents, accusing Shivanna of murdering Devi, had lodged a complaint with Badanavalu Police.

The then Nanjangud Sub-Division Dy.SP Divya Sara Thomas, who conducted investigations, had submitted a charge-sheet to the Court.

Fifth Additional District and Sessions Court Judge K. Doddegowda, who took up the hearing, heard the arguments from both sides and found Shivanna guilty of the crime and sentenced him (Shivanna) to life imprisonment besides imposing a fine of Rs. 10,000 under IPC Section 302.

In case the convict fails to pay the penalty, he has to undergo an additional five months simple imprisonment and another two months simple imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 4,000 under IPC Section 498 (A). Again, if the convict fails to pay the penalty, he has to again undergo three years simple imprisonment and has to pay Rs. 4,000 penalty again under IPC Section 201, failing which the convict has to again undergo four years simple imprisonment.

The Judge has ordered the Rs. 10,000 from the penalty amount be given to Devi's parents besides instructing the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) to provide adequate compensation to the victim's parents.

Public Prosecutor Nagappa C. Nakman argued on behalf of the Government.

Obituary

Vishakantaiah

Mysuru, Sept. 26- Vishakantaiah (97), a resident of Kalidasa Road in V.V. Mohalla, passed away on Thursday in city.

He leaves behind his wife, three sons, two daughters and a host of relatives and friends. Last rites were performed at Chirashantidhama in Gokulam on Thursday evening.

Youth drowns in Hemavathi Canal

Shashank Gowda

Pandavapura, Sept. 26 (KS)- A 20-year-old youth, who had gone for a swim, drowned in Hemavathi Canal at Hosahalli village near Melukote in the taluk yesterday.

The deceased is Shashank Gowda, son of Krishnegowda. Krishnegowda is serving as a Head Constable in Pandavapura Police Station. Shashank, who had been to the family's farm land at Uligere near Melukote along with his friends, went for a swim along with his friends in the canal. As Shashank did not know swimming, he was caught in the strong water force and was swept away and drowned.

Fire and Emergency Services personnel, who rushed to the spot, conducted a search and fished out the body later.

Melukote Police, who conducted mahazar, shifted the body to the Taluk Hospital, where post-mortem was conducted and the body was handed over to the family members.

Melukote Police, who have registered a case in this regard, are investigating.

Woman commits suicide

Mysuru, Sept. 26 (RK&KS)- A 24-year-old woman allegedly committed suicide by hanging self at her residence at Ganesh Nagar in Udayagiri Police limits on Thursday.

The deceased is Kumari, wife of Mahesh, a resident of Ganesh Nagar. Kumari, a native of Koodlapura village in Nanjangud taluk, was given in marriage to Mahesh two years ago. The couple were leading a peaceful life initially, but later, their happy family life began to deteriorate due to differences in opinions and the village elders too had advised them. As the problems could not be solved, Kumari hanged herself at the house at about 2.30 pm on Thursday, it is learnt.

Udayagiri in-Charge Inspector G.N. Srikanth and staff, who rushed to the spot, conducted mahazar. Meanwhile, deceased Kumari's elder brother Nagesh, alleging that his sister has been murdered for dowry and was later hanged, has lodged a complaint at Udayagiri Police Station.

Udayagiri Police, based on the complaint from Nagesh, have registered a case and are investigating.

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IN BLACK & WHITE

Vikram Muthanna

Puff and Prejudice

The Sushant Singh Rajput case has slid from being just a murder investigation to a drug bust. One wonders if this investigation has ended up exposing middle-class India's prejudice, hypocrisy and Victorian prudishness?

To begin with Rhea Chakraborty, Sushant's girlfriend, has been portrayed like a typical movie 'Vampy-Villainess,' the woman who drugged her lover to steal his money. Meanwhile her boyfriend, a grown man, who did not use his own phone to order drugs for his personal use so as to protect his reputation, has been portrayed as an innocent victim caught in the web spun by this 'black-widow.' That's prejudice.

We so easily blame women for the ills of men? A few years ago as I stood at the funeral of a middle-aged man in Saraswathipuram, I overheard his wife being blamed for not cooking tasty enough food, which supposedly forced her husband to eat out, leading him to have high BP and sugar! They said, "She killed him"! What they didn't stop to consider is that the husband wanted mutton chops and 100 Pipers whiskey everyday and rejected the healthy food his wife cooked at home.

Then we have Kangana Ranaut, who was addressed in a derogatory manner by a politician and we, the middle class Indians, rightfully got upset and supported her. But then, when Kangana started calling other women "soft porn star", "sasti actress" or "mafia bimbo," we forgive her and say she's just a fierce feminist? So when a man is disrespectful towards a woman, it is wrong; but when a woman is, it is not?

We have become a prejudiced lot who love it when bad things happen to people we envy. There is a word for it in German, *Schadenfreude,* pronounced, 'shaa•duhn•froy•duh.' This word is used to express the experience of pleasure or joy that comes from learning of, or witnessing the troubles, failures or humiliation of another. In short, one could call it "malicious joy." What is happening in Mumbai is the manifestation of collective *Schadenfredue* among the Indian middle class towards the rich and beautiful whom we envy and are jealous of. It stopped being "all about" justice for Sushant long time ago.

Now as for drugs, the young actors have been summoned. Suddenly our Victorian prudishness is telling us that these girls are "bad girls"; they are "loose girls" and so they deserve what they're getting. But why? Because these girls have had multiple boy friends, they wear skimpy clothes, they do item numbers, they speak their mind, they are aggressive and so it is no surprise they also do "drugs. They deserve to suffer. So it's a moralistic judgement, not factual.

The problem is even some of our law-makers and law-keepers think in moralistic terms instead of factual terms. They go by their prejudice, not evidence. By the way these girls seem to have consumed what many holy men consume at one of the largest holy gatherings in the world.

We wish the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) has the same enthusiasm to go after the big fish. These actors are just tiny guppy fish in a small self-loathing narcissistic aquarium called Bollywood and Sandalwood. By the way, it is said criminalising of cannabis happened in 1985, when the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law was legislated. Here is the interesting bit — It is said that this law got a push because Congressman Sunil Dutt was traumatised by his son Sanjay Dutt's addiction. Ah! like a movie script, a Bollywood-induced law has come to bite Bollywood!

But we must also remember that during the 1961 Convention on Narcotic Drugs, the US wanted cannabis declared a "hard drug" but India did not agree but buckled in 1985. We went along with them back then because we needed them. Now that they have made cannabis legal, why must we be left stuck with a law they forced upon us? Also if *bhaang* is legal, why not cannabis? The effects are pretty much the same.

By the way, while the Americans forced us to ban cannabis, we Indians being Indians could not let the Americans suck the fun out of our much-loved Holi festival; so we added that magic "clause" that we add in all our documents to circumvent a problem. This clause said that while the use of the fruit and flower of cannabis is illegal, the leaves are not and so we continued to grind cannabis leaves and make a "happy paste" called *bhaang.*

Intoxicants have always been part of human civilisation, especially soft drugs or natural hallucinogens. Be it bits of opium poppy found in the teeth of a male adult in a Neolithic site in Spain, be it charred Cannabis seeds in bowls found in Romania, or at the largest religious gathering in India, hallucinogens have always been used by humans if not for hedonistic purposes then for divine purposes. It cannot be stopped. But it can be regulated.

Let's also not forget cannabis has medicinal value too. No wonder that an Odisha-based startup HempCann Solutions opened India's first cannabis clinic in Koramangala, Bengaluru, in February this year. Here at their "clinic" named Vedi Herbals they sell tablets and cannabis oils. And these prescribed oils and tablets can help one with issues ranging from anxiety to improving sex life!

So we made cannabis illegal because of USA, but they have made it legal, so should we follow? This way the NCB can go after real dangerous "hard drug" dealers and producers rather than movie stars who enjoy a puff of cannabis, which is no more harmful than a "legal" gulp of alcohol?

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Drug case: Deepika Padukone appears before NCB

Mumbai, Sept. 26- Bollywood actress Deepika Padukone, Shraddha Kapoor and Sara Ali Khan today appeared before the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) in connection with the drugs probe linked to actor Sushant Singh Rajput's death. All the three actresses are being questioned by the NCB officials.

Deepika was seen entering the NCB guest house in Colaba around 9.50 am. Accompanied by her husband-actor Ranveer Singh, Deepika travelled back to Mumbai from Goa on a chartered flight on Thursday. She was in Goa for the shooting of her upcoming film.

Deepika is likely to be asked if she consumed drugs and from whom and where she procured them, and whether the drugs were procured for self use or for someone else.

Deepika's Manager Karishma Prakash reached the NCB office at 11 am whereas, Shraddha Kapoor arrived at the office at 12 noon. She too has been summoned by NCB to join the investigation of a drug case.

Sara Ali Khan who made her acting debut opposite Sushant Singh Rajput in the 2018 film 'Kedarnath,' appeared before the NCB around 1 pm.

Sara too was in Goa, reached Mumbai with her mother, actor Amrita Singh and brother, Ibrahim Ali Khan a day ago.

In the alleged chats, Deepika was reportedly asking her Manager if she had 'maal' — weed and not hash. However, the actor has reportedly blamed two people for dragging her name into the case. Earlier, it was reported that Deepika had consulted 12 lawyers.

NCB on Friday questioned actor Rakul Preet Singh, Deepika Padukone's Manager Karishma Prakash. The NCB also visited the home of Kshitij Ravi Prasad, a former Executive Producer with Dharmatic Entertainment. The NCB has already arrested Sushant's girlfriend Rhea Chakraborty and her brother Showik along with 18 others in the drugs case.

Chain-snatchers nabbed

(Continued from page 1)

Based on the information provided by the accused, the Police have recovered seven two-wheelers and six gold chains worth Rs. 14.10 lakh from them.

Accused Faraz, who has been named Assused-1 (A1) in the case, has one case each registered at KR Police Station, Ashokapuram, Udayagiri and Lakshmipuram Police Stations, two each in NR, Lashkar, Saraswathipuram, Vidyaranyapuram and Jayalakshmipuram Police Stations, three each in Nazarbad and V.V. Puram, five in Vijayanagar, three in Kumaraswamy Layout Police Station in Bengaluru, two in Subramanyapuram, one in Girinagar, one in Basavanagudi, one in Nanjangud, one in Kollegal, one in K.R. Nagar, one in Srirangapatna and one case in Mandya West Police Stations.

Accused two Arbaz Khan has a case registered against him at Kalasipalya Police Station in Bengaluru and Accused three Zabreen Khan has a case registered against him at Vidhana Soudha Police Station.

DCPs Dr. A.N. Prakash Gowda and Geetha Prasanna and KR Sub-Division ACP Poornachandra Tejaswi supervised KR Police Inspector L. Srinivas, Sub-Inspector C.N. Sunil, ASI D.B. Suresh, Head Constables Mukhadar Sharif, P. Gangadhar and M. Srinivas Prasad and staff S. Satish Kumar, Abhishek Benjamin, M. Madhu, Sharath Kumar, N. Ragini, Technical Wing Inspector Lolakshi and staff Manjunath, Gurudev Aradhya, Kumar and Shyam took part in the nabbing and recovery operation.

Mounted Police

(Continued from page 1)

However, this year, it is yet to be decided whether the Mayor, the City Police Commissioner and the Zilla Panchayat (ZP) President will have the opportunity of going on horseback during 'Jumboo Savari' with COVID restrictions limiting the number of people. City Police Commissioner Dr. Chandragupta, who is also the Dasara Procession Sub-Committee Special Officer, speaking to *Star of Mysore*, said that as Dasara is being celebrated in a simple manner and 'Jumboo Savari' limited only at Mysore Palace premises, it is yet to be decided on our participation.

Fake University

(Continued from page 1)

It is alleged that the University used to take lakhs of rupees from many people across the country and dupe them with fake certificates.

DCP Prakash Gowda said that the University had deployed many agents to bring candidates to the University and were being paid huge commission amounting to Rs. 50,000.

The University, while organising the function, used to invite people from other places and confer Hon. Doctorates on them. Likewise, when the function is organised in Bengaluru and other places, the University used to invite people from Mysuru and other places and confer Ph.D degrees on them, he added.

Vijayanagar Inspector Balakrishna and staff took part in the raid. A case has been registered in this regard at Vijayanagar Police Station.

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OBITUARY

Chandrashekar M (76 yrs)

Retired Excise Inspector and resident of Saraswatipuram, passed away on 19th September evening in Mysore city. He leaves behind his wife, two sons, two daughters in law, a grandson, a host of relatives and friends. His last rites were performed in the city on 20th Sep Sunday morning. His 11th day rituals will be held on Tuesday, 29th September.

REMEMBRANCE

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Stray dog menace, a matter of concern at Vijayanagar

Stray dog menace has increased in Vijayanagar 4th Stage with a pack of almost 15 dogs found roaming freely on the roads, chasing and barking at motorists and pedestrians. Also, these strays bark continuously at night giving sleepless nights. Residents have urged the authorities concerned to take steps to control the menace at the earliest.

The pathetic condition of the road at Yadavagiri

Though Yadavagiri is one of the posh localities in city, a few roads are in a very bad shape. One of SOM readers who has sent the above photo of the 8th Cross Road in Yadavagiri 2nd Stage alleges that the condition of this road is in a pathetic condition since about eight months and repeated pleas to the authorities concerned had yielded no results. The residents have urged the authorities concerned to take steps to get the road asphalted at the earliest.

Plasma Collection Unit opens in city

Mysuru, Sept. 26 (RKB& SSV)- Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA) Chairman H.V. Rajeev inaugurated Plasma Collection Centre at 'Jeevandhara' Blood Bank, near Ayurveda Circle here yesterday.

Speaking on the occasion, he said plasma has assumed great importance now with COVID-19 spreading its tentacles all over the world, and claiming lives of lakhs of people in the last six to seven months. Those who have recovered from the pandemic must come forward to donate plasma as it saves lives of others.

Of late, the number of Corona positive cases is increasing and this can be checked if more and more Corona positive recovered patients donate plasma. People have to change their lifestyle and wear face mask, use sanitiser frequently and maintain safe distance to check the spreading of Corona.

Rajeev said that the recovered patients hesitate to donate plasma due to fear in them. Need of the hour is to create awareness in them that nothing will happen if they donate plasma as it will help to save lives of other patients. The citizens must be careful as the pandemic is not sparing anyone including politicians, engineers or doctors.

Dr. S.E. Girish, Director of Jeevandhara Blood Bank, said that plasma is the liquid portion of blood. About 55 percent of our blood is Plasma, and the remaining 45 percent are red blood cells, white blood cells and platelets that are suspended in the plasma. The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has said Corona patients will recover if plasma collected from the recovered patients is given to them. Collection of plasma is one-and-a-half hour process and making it ready will take another two-and-a-half hours. Only 450 ML to 500 ML is collected from each person. It costs Rs. 8,000 for collection of plasma from each and another Rs. 3,000 towards maintenance cost.

The plasma is sold to public at Rs. 11,000. There is a thinking to give it free of cost in the future. "We had got license to run plasma unit eight years ago but now we have started unit," he added.

He appealed to the District Health Officer (DHO) to provide them with a list of recovered COVID-19 patients so that they could personally convince them to donate plasma in the interest of the suffering patients. The Government will pay Rs. 5,000 as incentive for those who donate plasma voluntarily.

"There will be absolutely no side effects. We will try to remove wrong notion prevailing in the minds of people about plasma donation and make them to save lives of serious patients".

On this occasion, a woman voluntarily donated plasma.

City BJP Unit President T.S. Srivatsa, Blood Bank Director Dr. C.G. Mutthanna, DTS Foundation President D.T. Prakash, BJP leader Dr. Anil Thomas and others were present.

Cauvery Hospital launches first 'Post COVID Clinic'

Mysuru, Sept. 26- A first of its kind, 'Post COVID Clinic' was inaugurated today at Cauvery Heart & Multi-Speciality Hospital, Siddarthanagar, Mysuru.

In a simple function, the Clinic was inaugurated by Dr. R. Venkatesh, District Health Officer (DHO), Mysuru district. Programme was presided over by Dr. G.R. Chandrashekar, Chairman of Cauvery Heart & Multi-Speciality Hospital and Syndicate Member, Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences (RGUHS).

The programme was attended by more than 50 patients who have recovered from COVID.

Speaking on occasion, DHO Dr. Venkatesh stressed the need for early testing for halting the progression of COVID.

Dr. Chandrashekar lauded the efforts of COVID workers and assured all help in future.

Dr. R. Vaidyanthan, Director - Critical Care and Emergency Services and Dr. Deepu Changappa, Consultant, Interventional Pulmonologist, spoke on the occasion and cleared many of the misconceptions among COVID recovered patients and offered valuable health tips.

An information brochure and Special Package for the post-COVID was also launched to mark the event.

Dr. B.N. Rajeeva, Medical Superintendent, Dr. Aravind, Principal, Cauvery College of Allied Health Sciences, B.J. Sandeep Patel, Facility Director, Cauvery Heart & Multi-Speciality Hospital and others were present.

The 'Post COVID Clinic' will function on every Wednesday and Friday from 10 am to 2 pm. Appointments can be had by calling Ph: 0821-2472424 / 4260044, according to a press release.

A TRIBUTE

SPB: Much more than a musical legend...

By Dr. R. Balasubramaniam

Hearing the passing away of S. P. Balasubrahmanyam (SPB) yesterday left me with a feeling of emptiness. For me, he was not just a musical legend who sang a world record of more than 40,000 songs in 15 languages. He was one of the most compassionate humanists that I have met and interacted with. For us at SVYM (Swami Vivekananda Youth Movement), he was much more than a donor or a well-wisher who had committed to one programme each year in support of our Palliative Care programme. He was a friend, an integral part of our mission and more than anything, he was someone who saw service as spiritual *sadhana*.

My last meeting with him was in February early this year much before the COVID issue had resulted in lockdowns and death scares. We were sitting together in his hotel room and discussing what constituted good leadership. For most people, we only see the stardom side of their lives — whether it is a cricketer, a cine star or a celebrity singer. It is difficult to imagine that there is a human side to their lives too. SPB was no exception. While many will know him as a singer, as a cine artiste and as a mega musical star, very few will have seen a dimension that people normally do not get to see or hear about.

The next 45 minutes of the conversation gave me insights into the simplicity, the humility and human side of SPB. He was more concerned about the inconvenience that his visit would cause and wanted to know whether the funds raised by his concert would meet our budgetary needs. He matter of factly let me know that people are blinded by his achievements and do not notice his flaws and failures. He said that he has to live with himself and knows how challenging dealing with human ego can be. He saw his life as an opportunity to use music not just to entertain but to also aid in the service of people. For him, singing *pro-bono* for our Palliative Care programme was his way of giving back to society, which had given him so much. When I tried thanking him for this, he felt visibly upset and mentioned that he had to thank SVYM for giving him the opportunity to be useful to society.

S.P. Balasubrahmanyam (SPB) singing for SVYM's charity concert in city during February 2020.

He gave his last public concert in Mysuru on February 9, 2020, as part of our '*Swaranubuthi*' programme in aid of our Palliative Care activities. That day will now be permanently etched in my memory. Not merely for listening to a musical legend but for something that I find it difficult to describe in mere words. Here was a man, a musical legend and one of India's greatest singers, who not for a moment did allow any of the adulation or the recognition get in the way of the larger purpose of participating in a programme that wanted to help people live and die in dignity. He was clear on why he was doing what he was doing. The thought of participating as a family member along with several other committed people wanting to help other fellow human beings was so evident in everything he spoke and did.

As I watched and listened to him, I realised that he was not merely a singer who has achieved the status of a 'legend.' This was an extraordinary human being in the pursuit of a higher purpose — that of actually seeing God in every person that he interacted with. Whether it was the fellow musicians on stage or the young compere — he only had good things to say about each of them. He was constantly looking to bring out the best in everyone present — whether it was himself, or the attending musicians and even the audience.

For someone who teaches leadership in different places around the world, this was possibly the best class in leadership that I have attended. The qualities of compassion, seeing only the positive, constantly demanding perfection of oneself and those around you, being disciplined, never allowing oneself to become the work at the centre, staying focused on the larger purpose and never allowing one's ego come in the way of one's existence — all this and more was there for us to see and learn from this great person.

And more than anything else, this was not a mere pretense that he was presenting to the audience. It was more than evident that this was the way he lived, and it was his natural and authentic self. For someone who has reached such a high stature to be so simple; for someone who has the world at his feet to be so humble is something that is unbelievable. But SPB was all this and more. He was a true humanist, a spiritual seeker and one who oozed divinity in his singing and in his very existence. We at SVYM were not just privileged to have someone like him support our work; I think he gave us the living inspiration of Swami Vivekananda's message. And I consider myself truly fortunate that I was treated to not just an auditory feast on that day, but to be in the presence of a spiritual giant who made himself so ordinary by making everyone around him become extraordinary. Sir, we salute you and thank you for inspiring us to do more and for your message of never forgetting that we are mere instruments in the hands of God. Not just SVYM, but every Indian will miss your physical presence and will remember you forever through your songs.

Om shanthi.

SPB at V-LEAD.

SPB with SVYM's Palliative Care team in Mysuru.

Dr. R. Balasubramaniam is the Founder and President of Swami Vivekananda Youth Movement that runs Palliative Care programmes in Mysuru, Saragur and Hassan. He can be reached at: email@rbalu.com

WORD OF THE DAY

Juncture

Pronunciation: JUNK-cher.
Meaning: A point of time; especially : one made critical by a concurrence of circumstances; joint, connection; an instance of joining : junction.
Origin: Juncture has many relatives—both obvious and obscure—in English. Juncture derives from the Latin verb jungere ("to join"), which gave us not only join and junction but also conjugal ("relating to marriage") and junta ("a group of persons controlling a government"). Jungere also has distant etymological connections to joust, jugular, juxtapose, yoga, and yoke. The use of juncture in English dates back to the 14th century. Originally, the word meant "a place where two or more things are joined," but by the 17th century it could also be used of an important point in time or of a stage in a process or activity.
Example: "At this juncture in the editing process," said Philip, "it is important that all facts have been double-checked and sources verified."

THE ODD WORD

Jagger

Toothed chisel.

PHRASE OF THE DAY

Jig is up

Meaning: The jig is up is a common phrase that means a ruse or trick has been seen through, thus it is no longer fooling anyone.
Origin: One of the definitions for the word "jig" today is to dance. So, for example, if someone is "doing a jig" that means they are dancing. However, dancing does not appear to have anything to do with the origin of this phrase. So where did it come from?
According to the Facts on File Encyclopedia of Word and Phrase Origins, by Robert Hendrickson, it states that this expression was used during Elizabethan times (mid-to-late 16th century). During these times, the word "jig" became slang for a practical joke or trick. Thus, if "the jig was up" it meant that your trick was found out, or exposed. This era might be where the expression derives its meaning. Tip: If you want to see more common sayings starting with "J" then check out that list.

QUOTE BOX

When things get really bad, just raise your glass and stamp your feet and do a little jig. That's about all you can do. **—Leonard Cohen**

RIDDLE THIS

Solve the rebus:

VA DERS

Answer: Space invaders.

SUDOKU

5	1	2	3					6
			1		7			3
					6			8
	5	6					8	4
1	7					2	6	
4			5					
2			8		1			
3					2	6	5	9

Answer to previous puzzle

9	7	3	4	1	6	2	5	8
4	2	5	3	9	8	7	1	6
6	8	1	2	5	7	3	4	9
7	6	9	8	2	1	4	3	5
8	5	2	9	4	3	1	6	7
1	3	4	6	7	5	8	9	2
3	4	6	7	8	9	5	2	1
5	9	7	1	3	2	6	8	4
2	1	8	5	6	4	9	7	3

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Concept is Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

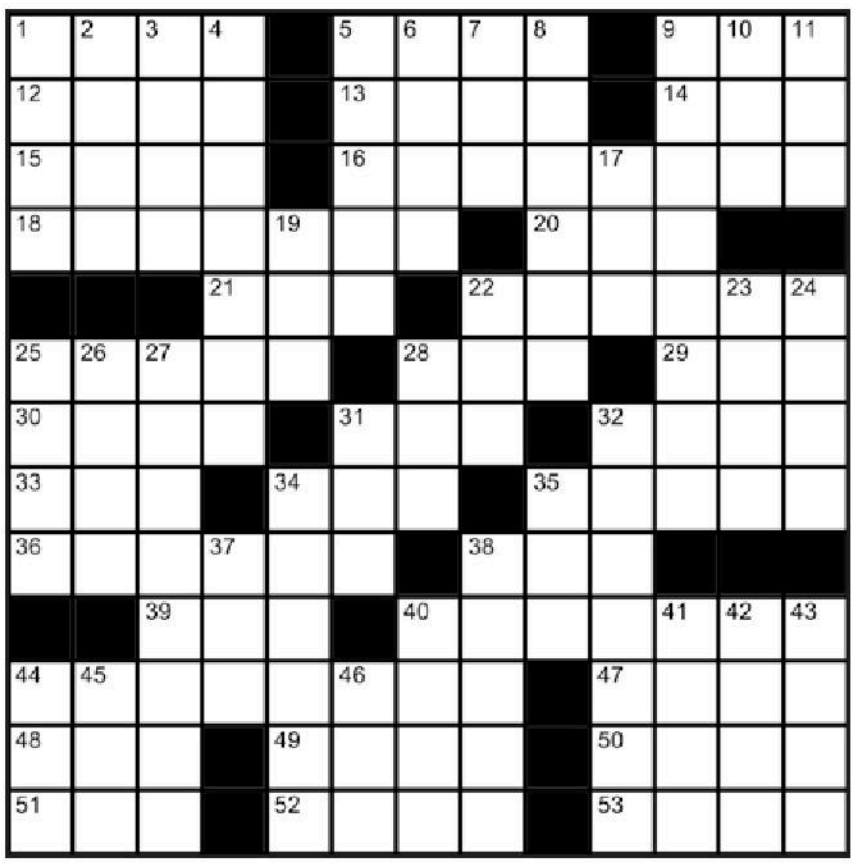
CROSS WORD

ACROSS:
1 Regional belt
5 Indian wheaten flour
9 Hefty sandwich
12 Angers or rages
13 Large mop
14 The French friend?
15 Recent information
16 Advocate of social equality
18 Exclusive group
20 Angle-of-attack
21 The Big Apple
22 Classical hard worker
25 Mexican plant
28 Counterfeit article
29 Outer as a prefix ?
30 Ex-India batsman Pravin ___
31 The Scottish for 'own'
32 Keen
33 Rsrv. Bk. of India
34 Append or join
35 Got up
36 Observe
38 Adipose
39 Common language suffix
40 External part of the ear
44 Public sales
47 Fatty tissue
48 Assoc. in Pub. Admin.
49 Highest single digit
50 Inspire or encourage
51 Above sea level
52 Very happy
53 Not any

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

S	A	M	E	■	G	O	A	■	B	R	O	W
E	L	E	C	T	I	V	E	■	L	U	N	E
E	T	A	L	■	B	E	R	G	A	M	O	T
P	I	L	A	U	■	N	O	R	M	■	■	■
■	■	■	I	M	P	S	■	E	E	R	I	E
■	B	A	R	B	S	■	F	■	S	U	B	S
T	I	N	■	O	S	C	A	R	■	B	E	E
B	R	E	N	■	T	■	C	A	L	Y	X	■
D	O	W	E	L	■	B	E	N	E	■	■	■
■	■	■	W	E	A	L	■	N	A	M	E	S
E	I	T	H	E	R	O	R	■	V	O	I	D
P	R	O	A	■	C	A	N	B	E	R	R	A
R	A	P	T	■	A	T	A	■	S	E	E	K

DOWN
1 "Zn" chemically speaking?
2 Famous cookie
3 A small-tailed amphibian like a salamander or eft
4 Distinctive quality
5 Earlier form of SONAR?
6 Sickly sentimental
7 Flat-crowned hat
8 On a ship or train
9 Capital of Bosnia
10 __ Devi aka Tuntun
11 Scrap or mite
17 Dove-call
19 Norwegian rug
22 Large cask
23 WWII group
24 Meeting point
25 Rambling story
26 Boss of a shield
27 Momentous
28 Carried out
31 A synthetic fruit drink
32 Skilled craftsman
34 Hurting
35 ___ Paar: 1954 Guru Dutt movie
37 Believer: suffix
38 Melted with intense heat?
40 Dancer Pavlova
41 Castro's land
42 Ogle or stare at
43 English painter
44 Battery size
45 Bull periods
46 Olive extract, perhaps



CRYPTOQUIP

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

LCF SJEXV BY ZJIBPM YJ WQYL LCFYF VQKY LCQL

LCF ZQP SCJ YQKY BL GQP'L HF VJPF BY MFPFEQXXK

BPLFEEOULFV HK YJZFJPF VJBPM BL.

TODAY'S CLUE: M EQUALS G

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: Let us be grateful to people who make us happy: They are the charming gardeners who make our souls blossom.

Prithvi Shaw, Kagiso Rabada shine in DC's second successive win

Dubai, Sept. 26- Delhi Capitals (DC) sealed their second successive win in the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2020 as they beat Chennai Super Kings (CSK) by 44 runs at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium yesterday.

In the seventh game of the season, CSK, who made one change to their playing XI, bringing in Josh Hazlewood in place of Lungi Ngidi, won the toss and elected to field.

Prithvi Shaw set the ball rolling for DC, hitting two fours in the first over bowled by Deepak Chahar. While there were a couple of quiet overs, Shaw added two more fours to his account as he took on Sam Curran.

Piyush Chawla was introduced into the attack in the seventh over and Shaw welcomed him with two fours. In the next over, Shikhar Dhawan hit Ravindra Jadeja for a six and a four as DC moved past 60.

Shaw once again went after Chawla in the ninth over and then hit a six off Jadeja in the tenth over to complete his fifty.

DC's Prithvi Shaw and Kagiso Rabada celebrate a wicket during the IPL match against CSK at Dubai yesterday.

CSK needed a breakthrough and Chawla provided them with one, dismissing Dhawan in the 11th over. The leg-spinner struck one more time as Shaw was stumped.

Shreyas Iyer and Rishabh Pant joined forces in the middle following Shaw's dismissal in the 13th over and added 58 runs together.

The partnership was broken in the 19th over when Dhoni took a stunning catch, diving to his right off Curran's bowling. Hazlewood's last over went for 14 runs as DC posted 175/3 on the board.

Defending 175, DC did not give away any easy runs in the first three overs before Shane Watson hit Avesh Khan for a four and a six in the 4th over. But Axar Patel dismissed Watson in the next over before Anrich Nortje got Murali Vijay out on the last ball of the powerplay. DC conceded just 13 runs in the next four overs and lost the wicket of Ruturaj Gaikwad.

Faf du Plessis and Kedar Jadhav put up a 54-run stand for the next wicket and kept the CSK hopes alive before Nortje got Jadhav out LBW in the 16th over.

While du Plessis enjoyed a couple of reprieves, he was eventually dismissed for 43 by Kagiso Rabada in the 18th over.

With 55 needed in the last two overs, CSK needed a miracle to win the match. But DC conceded only 10 runs in the last two overs and sealed 44-run win to seal their second win in a row.

Brief Scores — DC: 175/3 (Prithvi Shaw 64, Rishabh Pant 37*; Piyush Chawla 2/33) beat **CSK:** 131/7 (Faf du Plessis 43, Kedar Jadhav 26; Kagiso Rabada 3/26) by 44 runs.

French Open to allow just 1,000 fans a day

A file photo of crowded Stade Roland Garros, Paris.

Paris, Sept. 26- A maximum of only 1,000 spectators will be allowed each day at Stade Roland Garros after the French Government insisted Thursday on tougher restrictions to counter the resurgence of the Coronavirus. Organisers of the French Open, which gets underway four months later than planned in Paris on Sunday, had hoped for a maximum of 5,000. That figure had already been reduced from 20,000 and then 11,500.

French Prime Minister Jean Castex insisted that the Grand Slam tournament must be subject to the same restrictions imposed Thursday on sports events taking place in designated 'red zones' where the Coronavirus is showing signs of resurgence.

"We will apply the same rules at Roland Garros as elsewhere," said Castex. "We go from 5,000 to 1,000."

Sources told, however, that the figure does not include credential holders such as officials, media, players and staff.

Earlier Thursday, French Open Chief Guy Forget said that he had hoped to protect the 5,000 limit and that the nature of the Roland Garros complex would work in the tournament's favour.

"We are able to accommodate 5,000, as small as it is, on a 12-hectare area," he said.

"We stage the tournament on the equivalent of 15 football fields, outdoors. Everyone wears a mask, even the ball boys and girls and chair umpires."

The limit of 1,000 fans a day represents less than 3% of last year's total attendance of almost 5,20,000.

There will also be financial repercussions.

In 2019, Roland Garros accounted for around 80% of the French Tennis Federation (FFT) budget — 255.4 million euros out of a total 325 million.

Ticket sales generate nearly 20% of tournament revenue.

When the planned limit was 11,500 spectators, Forget estimated that "the tournament's proceeds (would) be halved," which corresponded to between 130 and 140 million euros.

The US Open in New York, which ended just under two weeks ago, banned all spectators from its sprawling Flushing Meadows complex.

Wimbledon was cancelled for the first time since the Second World War.

IPL 2020

Today's Match (SEPT. 26)

KKR Vs SRH
Sheikh Zayed Stadium, Abu Dhabi, **7.30 pm (IST)**

Tomorrow's Match (SEPT. 27)

RR Vs KXIP
Sharjah Cricket Stadium, Sharjah, **7.30 pm (IST)**

Yesterday's Result

DC 175/3 (20 Overs) beat **CSK 131/7 (20 Overs)**

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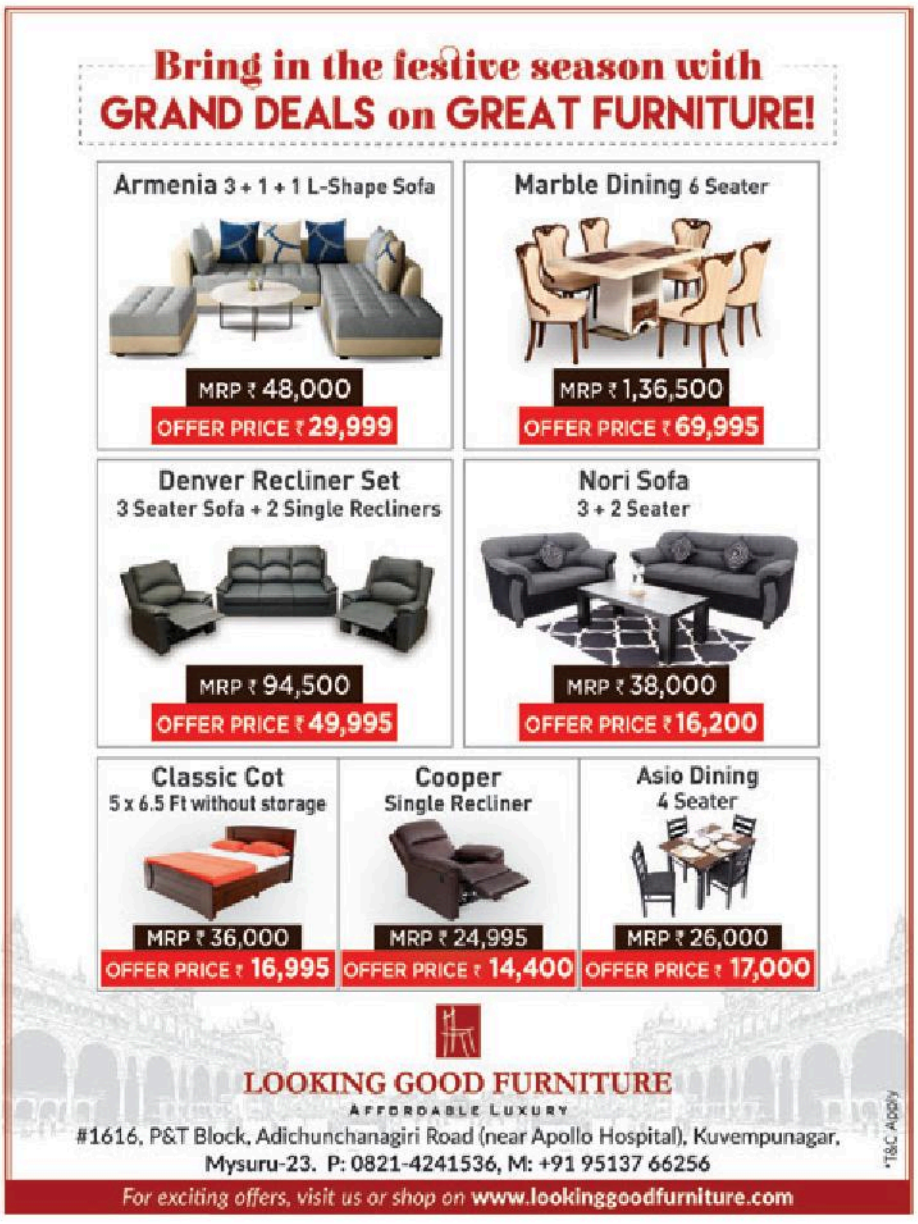
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